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ABSTRACT

The purpose and functions of accreditation in the United States are explained and the five basic steps involved in the accrediting function are provided. The types of accredition are analyzed followed by a description of the nongovernmental coordinating agencies involved in accreditation. The functions of the Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation, established by the Commissioner of Education in 1968, and the Advisory Committee on Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility, established by charter under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), are presented. A list of the current members of the Advisory Committee on Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility is also provided. Finally, information concerning criteria and procedures for recognizing national accrediting bodies is presented, followed by a list of regional and national accrediting agencies and associations which have been recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education. (SPG)

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ED152160

MARCH 1977

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Office of Education
Bureau of Postsecondary Education
Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation

HE 004 736

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ROLE OF VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION

One of the distinctive features of American education is that the development and maintenance of educational standards are the responsibilities of nongovernmental, voluntary accrediting associations. The Office of Education is cognizant of the invaluable contribution which the voluntary accrediting associations have made to the development of educational quality in the Nation. It is the policy of the Office of Education generally to support and encourage the various recognized voluntary accrediting associations in their role as the primary agents in the development and maintenance of educational standards in the United States.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Criteria and Procedures for

Listing by the U.S. Commissioner of Education

and

Current List

March 1977

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Office of Education
Bureau of Postsecondary Education
Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation

ACCREDITATION IN THE UNITED STATES

The United States has no Federal ministry of education or other centralized authority exercising single national control over educational institutions in this country. The States assume varying degrees of control over education, but, in general, institutions of postsecondary education are permitted to operate with considerable independence and autonomy. As a consequence, American educational institutions can vary widely in the character and quality of their programs.

In order to insure a basic level of quality, the practice of accreditation arose in the United States as a means of conducting nongovernmental, peer evaluation of educational institutions and programs. Private educational associations of regional or national scope have adopted criteria reflecting the qualities of a sound educational program and have developed procedures for evaluating institutions or programs to determine whether or not they are operating at basic levels of quality.

Functions of Accreditation

1. Certifying that an institution has met established standards;
2. Assisting prospective students in identifying acceptable institutions;
3. Assisting institutions in determining the acceptability of transfer credits;
4. Helping to identify institutions and programs for the investment of public and private funds;
5. Protecting an institution against harmful internal and external pressures;
6. Creating goals for self-improvement of weaker programs and stimulating a general raising of standards among educational institutions;
7. Involving the faculty and staff comprehensively in institutional evaluation and planning;
8. Establishing criteria for professional certification, licensure, and for upgrading courses offering such preparation; and
9. Providing one of several considerations used as a basis for determining eligibility for Federal assistance.

The Accrediting Procedure

Accrediting usually involves five basic steps:

1. Standards: The accrediting agency, in collaboration with educational institutions, establishes standards.
2. Self-study: The institution or program seeking accreditation prepares a self-evaluation study that measures its performance against the standards established by the accrediting agency.
3. On-site Evaluation: A team selected by the accrediting agency visits the institution or program to determine first-hand if the applicant meets the established standards.
4. Publication: Upon being satisfied that the applicant meets its standards, the accrediting agency lists the institution or program in an official publication with other similarly accredited institutions or programs.
5. Reevaluation: The accrediting agency periodically reevaluates the institutions or programs that it lists to ascertain that continuation of the accredited status is warranted.

Types of Accreditation

There are two basic types of educational accreditation, one identified as "institutional" and one referred to as "specialized," or "programmatic."

Institutional accreditation normally applies to an entire institution, indicating that each of its parts is contributing to the achievement of an institution's objectives, although not necessarily all on the same level of quality. The various commissions of the regional accrediting associations, for example, perform institutional accreditation, as do some national accrediting agencies.

Specialized accreditation normally applies to evaluation of programs, departments or schools which usually are parts of a total collegiate or other postsecondary institution. The unit accredited may be as large as a college or school within a university or as small as a curriculum within a discipline. Most of the specialized accrediting agencies review units within a postsecondary institution which is accredited by one of the regional accrediting commissions. However, certain of the specialized accrediting agencies do accredit professional schools and other specialized or vocational or other postsecondary institutions which are free-standing in their operations. Thus, a "specialized" or "programmatic" accrediting agency may also function in the capacity of an "institutional" accrediting agency. In addition, a number of specialized accrediting agencies accredit educational programs within non-educational settings, such as hospitals.

The procedures used by institutional and specialized accrediting agencies are similar, and the evaluations made and the accrediting decisions rendered are considered to be equally valid, but not necessarily synonymous. Accreditation, for example, does not provide automatic acceptance by an institution of credit earned in another institution, nor does it give assurance of acceptance of graduates by employers. Acceptance of students or graduates is always the prerogative of the receiving institution or employer. For these reasons, besides ascertaining the accredited status of a school or program, students should take additional measures to determine, prior to enrollment, whether or not their educational goals will be met through attendance at a particular institution. These measures should include inquiries to institutions to which transfer might be desired or to prospective employers, and personal inspection of the institution in which enrollment is contemplated.

Nongovernmental Coordinating Agencies

The Council of Regional School Accrediting Commissions serves as the coordinating agency for the seven commissions on secondary education of the regional associations. Its general purpose is to provide an organization through which the regional commissions for secondary schools can unite and communicate to advance the cause of voluntary institution-based evaluation and accreditation for public and non-public schools and for a diversity of other types of secondary schools.

The Council on Postsecondary Accreditation, in January 1975, assumed the functions of the Federation of Regional Accrediting Commissions of Higher Education and the National Commission on Accrediting. It is a nongovernmental organization intended to foster and facilitate the role of accrediting agencies in promoting and ensuring the quality and diversity of American postsecondary education. The Council recognizes, coordinates, and periodically reviews the work of its member accrediting agencies, determines the appropriateness of existing or proposed accrediting activities, and performs other related functions.

The Council of Specialized Accrediting Agencies, which is represented on the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation, was organized in 1973 to strengthen the effectiveness and quality of postsecondary professional and specialized education through accreditation and to collaborate with other postsecondary accrediting agencies on behalf of the specialized organizations.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS BY THE U.S. COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

For purposes of determining eligibility for United States Government assistance under certain legislation, the U.S. Commissioner of Education is required to publish a list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations which he determines to be reliable authorities as to the quality of training offered by educational institutions and programs. Most institutions thus attain eligibility for Federal funds by holding accredited or preaccredited status with one of the accrediting bodies recognized by the Commissioner of Education, in addition to fulfilling other eligibility requirements. In some legislation, provision is made for special qualifying steps that may be taken as alternatives to the normal accreditation process.

The commissions of the regional associations and the national accrediting agencies which are recognized by the Commissioner have no legal control over educational institutions or programs. They promulgate standards of quality or criteria of institutional excellence and approve or admit to membership those institutions that meet the standards or criteria.

THE DIVISION OF ELIGIBILITY AND AGENCY EVALUATION

The Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation, formerly the Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility Staff, was established in 1968 by the Commissioner of Education to deal with accreditation and eligibility matters. Located in the Bureau of Postsecondary Education, the Division has the following major functions:

1. Continuous review of procedures, policies, and issues in the area of the Office of Education's interests and responsibilities relative to accreditation and eligibility for funding;
2. Administration of the eligibility for funding process;
3. Administration of the process whereby accrediting associations secure initial and renewed recognition by the Commissioner of Education;
4. Liaison with accrediting associations;
5. Consultative services to institutions, associations, other Federal agencies, and Congress regarding accreditation and eligibility for funding considerations;
6. Interpretation and dissemination of policy relative to accreditation and eligibility for funding issues in the case of all appropriate programs administered by the Office of Education;
7. Conduct and stimulation of appropriate research; and
8. Support for the Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility.

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITATION AND INSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY

The Advisory Committee on Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility is established by charter under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L 92-463). It is composed of 15 persons appointed to three-year terms by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare from various segments of the secondary and postsecondary education community, the student/youth population, State departments of education, professional associations, and the general public.

Functions

The Committee functions to assist the U.S. Commissioner of Education in the performance of eligibility determining duties imposed by P.L. 82-550, the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952, and subsequent legislation. It also serves to advise him on broader policy matters and specific issues relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility for Federal funding. Specifically, the Committee is mandated to:

1. Review all current and future policies relating to the responsibility of the Commissioner for the recognition and designation of accrediting agencies and associations wishing to be designated as nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations, and recommended desirable changes in criteria and procedures;
2. Review all current and future policies relating to the responsibility of the Commissioner for the recognition and listing of State agencies wishing to be designated as reliable authority as to the quality of public postsecondary vocational education, and of nurse education, and recommend desirable changes in criteria and procedures;
3. Review and advise the Commissioner of Education in the formation of all current and future policy relating to the matter of institutional eligibility;
4. Review the provisions of current legislation affecting Office of Education responsibility in the area of accreditation and institutional eligibility and suggest needed changes to the Commissioner of Education;
5. Develop and recommend to the Commissioner of Education criteria and procedures for the recognition and designation of accrediting agencies and associations in accordance with legislative provisions, Presidential directives, or interagency agreements;
6. Review and recommend to the Commissioner of Education for designation as nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations of reliable authority all applicant accrediting agencies and associations which meet criteria established under (5) above;
7. Develop and recommend to the Commissioner of Education criteria and procedures for the recognition, designation and listing of State agencies in accordance with statutory provisions, Executive Orders, or interagency agreements;
8. Review and recommend to the Commissioner of Education for designation as State agencies of reliable authority as to the quality of public postsecondary vocational education, and of nurse education, all applicant State agencies which meet criteria established under (7) above;
9. Develop, under the authority of the Vocational Education Act of 1963, as amended, and recommend for the approval of the Commissioner of Education, standards and criteria for specific categories of private vocational training institutions which have no alternative route by which to establish eligibility for Federal funding programs;
10. Develop, under the authority of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and recommend for the approval of the Commissioner of Education, standards and criteria for specific categories of institutions of higher education, for which there is no recognized accrediting agency or association, in order to establish eligibility for participation in the student loan programs authorized by Title IV-B thereof;
11. Maintain a continuous review of Office of Education administrative practice, procedures and judgments relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility and advise the Commissioner of needed changes;
12. Keep within its purview the accreditation and approval process as it develops in all levels of education;
13. Advise the Commissioner of Education concerning the relations of the Office with accrediting agencies or associations, or other approval bodies as the Commissioner may request;
14. Advise the Commissioner of education, pursuant to the Bureau of the Budget (Office of Management and Budget) policy dated December 23, 1954, regarding the award of degree-granting status to Federal agencies and institutions;
15. Not later than March 31 of each year, make an annual report of its activities, findings and recommendations.

List

The following is a list of the current members of the Advisory Committee and the expiration dates of their terms of membership:

Dr. Anne Pascasio, Chairperson
Dean
School of Health Related Professions
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
June 30, 1978

Dr. Herman R. Branson
President
Lincoln University
Lincoln University, Pennsylvania
June 30, 1979

Dr. Harold B. Crosby
Interim President
Florida International University
Miami, Florida
June 30, 1979

John F. X. Irving, Esq.
Dean
Seton Hall University Law School
Newark, New Jersey
June 30, 1977

Mrs. Emiko I. Kudo
Assistant Superintendent
Office of Instructional Services
Department of Education
Honolulu, Hawaii
June 30, 1977

Mr. Patrick Laughlin
Executive Director
Houston Teachers Association
Houston, Texas
June 30, 1979

Ms. Yolanda Lee McClain
Student
George Washington University Law School
Washington, D.C.
June 30, 1977

Dr. Donald R. McKinley
Chief Deputy Superintendent
California Department of Education
Sacramento, California
June 30, 1978

Dr. N. Edd Miller
President
University of Maine at Portland-Gorham
Gorham, Maine
June 30, 1979

Mr. Wendell H. Pierce
Littleton, Colorado
June 30, 1977

Thomas C. Shearer, Esq.
Grand Rapids, Michigan
June 30, 1979

Ms. Vicki Shell
Research Associate
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
June 30, 1978

Dr. Robert L. Simpson
Department of Religion and Philosophy
Phillips University
Enid, Oklahoma
June 30, 1978

James P. Steele, M.D.
Vice President
American College of Radiology
Yankton, South Dakota
June 30, 1977

Mr. Valleau Wilkie, Jr.
Executive Vice President
Sid Richardson Foundation
Fort Worth, Texas
June 30, 1978

CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR RECOGNITION OF NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

The following information concerning the criteria and procedures for recognizing national accrediting bodies was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on August 20, 1974, under Title 45—Public Welfare, Chapter I—Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Part 149—Commissioner's Recognition Procedures for National Accrediting Bodies and State Agencies

Subpart A—Criteria for Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Associations

Sec.
149.1 Scope.
149.2 Definitions.
149.3 Publication of list.
149.4 Inclusion on list
149.5 Initial recognition; renewal of recognition.
149.6 Criteria.

Authority: 20 U.S.C. 403(b), 1085(b), 1141(a), 1248(11); 42 U.S.C. 293a(b), 295f-3(b), 295h-4(1)(D), 298(f); 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F); 12 U.S.C. 1749c(b); 38 U.S.C. 1775(a).

Subpart A—Criteria for Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies and Associations

§ 149.1 Scope.

Accreditation of institutions or programs of institutions by agencies or associations nationally recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education is a prerequisite to the eligibility for Federal financial assistance of institutions and of the students attending such institutions under a wide variety of federally supported programs. The recognition of such agencies is reflected in lists published by the Commissioner in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Inclusion on such list is dependent upon the Commissioner's finding that any such recognized agency or association is reliable authority as to the quality of training offered. The Commissioner's recognition is granted and the agency or association is included on the list only when it meets the criteria established by the Commissioner and set forth in § 149.6 of this part.
(20 U.S.C. 1141(a))

§ 149.2 Definitions.

"Accrediting" means the process whereby an agency or association grants public recognition to a school, institute, college, university, or specialized program of study which meets certain established qualifications and educational standards, as determined through initial and periodic evaluations. The essential purpose of the accreditation process is to provide a professional judgment as to the quality of the educational institution or program(s) offered, and to encourage continual improvement thereof;

"Adverse accrediting action" means denial of accreditation or preaccreditation status or the withdrawal of accreditation or preaccreditation status;

"Agency or association" means a corporation, association, or other legal entity or unit thereof which has the principal responsibility for carrying out the accrediting function;

"Institutional accreditation" applies to the total institution and signifies that the institution as a whole is achieving its educational objectives satisfactorily;

"Regional" means the conduct of institutional accreditation in three or more States;

"Representatives of the public" means representatives who are laymen in the sense that they are not educators in, or members of the profession for which the students are being prepared, nor in any way are directly related to the institutions or programs being evaluated;

"States" includes the District of Columbia and territories and possessions of the United States.
(20 U.S.C. 1141(a))

§ 149.3 Publication of list.

Periodically the U.S. Commissioner of Education will publish a list in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the accrediting agencies and associations which he determines to be reliable authorities as to the quality of training offered by educational institutions or programs, either in a geographical area or in a specialized field. The general scope of the recognition granted to each of the listed accrediting bodies will also be listed.
(20 U.S.C. 1141(a))

§ 149.4 Inclusion on list.

Any accrediting agency or association which desires to be listed by the Commissioner as meeting the criteria set forth in § 149.6 should apply in writing to the Director, Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation, Bureau of Postsecondary Education, Office of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202.
(20 U.S.C. 1141(a))

§149.5 Initial recognition and renewal of recognition.

(a) For initial recognition and for renewal of recognition, the accrediting agency or association will furnish information establishing its compliance with the criteria set forth in §149.6. This information may be supplemented by personal interviews or by review of the agency's facilities, records, personnel qualifications, and administrative management. Each agency listed will be reevaluated by the Commissioner at his discretion, but at least once every four years. No adverse decision will become final without affording opportunity for a hearing.

(b) In view of the criteria set forth in §149.6, it is unlikely that more than one association or agency will qualify for recognition (1) in a defined geographical area of jurisdiction or (2) in a defined field of program specialization within secondary or postsecondary education. If two or more separate organizations in a defined field do seek recognition, they will both be expected to demonstrate need for their activities and show that their accrediting activities do not unduly disrupt the affected institution or program.

(20 U.S.C. 1141(a))

§149.6 Criteria.

In requesting designation by the U.S. Commissioner of Education as a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association, an accrediting agency or association must show:

(a) Functional aspects. Its functional aspects will be demonstrated by:

(1) Its scope of operations:

(i) The agency or association is national or regional in its scope of operations.

(ii) The agency or association clearly defines in its charter, by-laws or accrediting standards the scope of its activities, including the geographical area and the types and levels of institutions or programs covered.

(2) Its organization:

(i) The agency or association has the administrative personnel and procedures to carry out its operations in a timely and effective manner.

(ii) The agency or association defines its fiscal needs, manages its expenditures, and has adequate financial resources to carry out its operations, as shown by an externally audited financial statement.

(iii) The agency's or association's fees, if any, for the accreditation process do not exceed the reasonable cost of sustaining and improving the process.

(iv) The agency or association uses competent and knowledgeable persons, qualified by experience and training, and selects such persons in accordance with nondiscriminatory practices: (A) to participate on visiting evaluation teams; (B) to engage in consultative services for the evaluation and accreditation process; and (C) to serve on policy and decision-making bodies.

(v) The agency or association includes on each visiting evaluation team at least one person who is not a member of its policy or decision-making body or its administrative staff.

(3) Its procedures:

(i) The agency or association maintains clear definitions of each level of accreditation status and has clearly written procedures for granting, denying, reaffirming, revoking, and reinstating such accredited statuses.

(ii) The agency or association, if it has developed a preaccreditation status, provides for the application of criteria and procedures that are related in an appropriate manner to those employed for accreditation.

(iii) The agency or association requires, as an integral part of its accrediting process, institutional or program self-analysis and an on-site review by a visiting team.

(A) The self-analysis shall be a qualitative assessment of the strengths and limitations of the institution or program, including the achievement of institutional or program objectives, and should involve a representative portion of the institution's administrative staff, teaching faculty, students, governing body, and other appropriate constituencies.

(B) The agency or association provides written and consultative guidance to the institution or program and to the visiting team.

(b) Responsibility. Its responsibility will be demonstrated by the way in which –

(1) Its accreditation in the field in which it operates serves clearly identified needs, as follows:

(i) The agency's or association's accreditation

program takes into account the rights, responsibilities, and interests of students, the general public, the academic, professional, or occupational fields involved, and institutions.

(ii) The agency's or association's purposes and objectives are clearly defined in its charter, by-laws, or accrediting standards.

(2) It is responsive to the public interest, in that:

(i) The agency or association includes representatives of the public in its policy and decision-making bodies, or in an advisory or consultative capacity that assures attention by the policy and decision-making bodies.

(ii) The agency or association publishes or otherwise makes publicly available:

(A) The standards by which institutions or programs are evaluated;

(B) The procedures utilized in arriving at decisions regarding the accreditation status of an institution or program;

(C) The current accreditation status of institutions or programs and the date of the next currently scheduled review or reconsideration of accreditation;

(D) The names and affiliations of members of its policy and decision-making bodies, and the name(s) of its principal administrative personnel;

(E) A description of the ownership, control and type of legal organization of the agency or association.

(iii) The agency or association provides advance notice of proposed or revised standards to all persons, institutions, and organizations significantly affected by its accrediting process, and provides such persons, institutions and organizations adequate opportunity to comment on such standards prior to their adoption.

(iv) The agency or association has written procedures for the review of complaints pertaining to institutional or program quality, as these relate to the agency's standards and demonstrates that such procedures are adequate to provide timely treatment of such complaints in a manner that is fair and equitable to the complainant and to the institution or program.

(3) It assures due process in its accrediting procedures, as demonstrated in part by:

(i) Affording initial evaluation of the institutions or programs only when the chief executive officer of the institution applies for accreditation of the institution or any of its programs;

(ii) Providing for adequate discussion during an on-site visit between the visiting team and the faculty, administrative staff, students, and other appropriate persons;

(iii) Furnishing, as a result of an evaluation visit, a written report to the institution or program commenting on areas of strengths, areas needing improvement and, when appropriate, suggesting means of improvement and including specific areas, if any, where the institution or program may not be in compliance with the agency's standards;

(iv) Providing the chief executive officer of the institution or program with an opportunity to comment upon the written report and to file supplemental materials pertinent to the facts and conclusions in the written report of the visiting team before the accrediting agency or association takes action on the report;

(v) Evaluating, when appropriate, the report of the visiting team in the presence of a member of the team, preferably the chairman;

(vi) Providing for the withdrawal of accreditation only for cause, after review, or when the institution or program does not permit re-evaluation, after due notice;

(vii) Providing the chief executive officer of the institution with a specific statement of reasons for any adverse accrediting action, and notice of the right to appeal such action;

(viii) Establishing and implementing published rules of procedure regarding appeals which will provide for:

(A) No change in the accreditation status of the institution or program pending disposition of an appeal;

(B) Right to a hearing before the appeal body;

(C) Supplying the chief executive officer of the institution with a written decision of the appeal body, including a statement of specifics.

(4) It has demonstrated capability and willingness to foster ethical practices among the institutions or programs which it accredits, including equitable student tuition refunds and nondiscriminatory practices in admissions and employment.

(5) It maintains a program of evaluation of its educational standards designed to assess their validity and reliability.

(6) It secures sufficient qualitative information regarding the institution or program which shows an on-going program of evaluation of outputs consistent with the educational goals of the institution or program.

(7) It encourages experimental and innovative programs to the extent that these are conceived and implemented in a manner which ensures the quality and integrity of the institution or program.

(8) It accredits only those institutions or programs which meet its published standards, and demonstrates that its standards, policies, and procedures are fairly applied and that its evaluations are conducted and decisions rendered under conditions that assure an impartial and objective judgment.

(9) It reevaluates at reasonable intervals institutions or programs which it has accredited.

(10) It requires that any reference to its accreditation of accredited institutions and programs clearly specifies the areas and levels for which accreditation has been received.

(c) Reliability. Its reliability is demonstrated by –

(1) Acceptance throughout the United States of its policies, evaluation methods, and decisions by educators, educational institutions licensing bodies, practitioners, and employers;

(2) Regular review of its standards, policies and procedures, in order that the evaluative process shall support constructive analysis, emphasize factors of critical importance, and reflect the educational and training needs of the student;

(3) Not less than two years' experience as an accrediting agency or association;

(4) Reflection in the composition of its policy and decision-making bodies of the community of interests directly affected by the scope of its accreditation.

(d) Autonomous. Its autonomy is demonstrated by evidence that –

(1) It performs no function that would be inconsistent with the formation of an independent judgment of the quality of an educational program or institution;

(2) It provides in its operating procedures against conflict of interest in the rendering of its judgments and decisions.

(20 U.S.C. 1141(a))

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

The following regional and national accrediting agencies and associations have been recognized by the U.S. Commissioner of Education as reliable authorities concerning the quality of education or training offered by educational institutions or programs. The dates included with each entry are: date of initial listing/date of action taken as result of last full-scale review (if different from date of initial listing)/date of next regular review.

Regional Institutional Accrediting Associations

New England Association of Schools and Colleges
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
Richard J. Bradley, Executive Director
131 Middlesex Turnpike
Burlington, Massachusetts 01803
1976/1980

Commission on Independent Schools
Ralph O. West, Director of Evaluation
initially recognized in 1974

Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
William J. MacLeod, Director of Evaluation
initially recognized in 1952

Commission on Public Schools
Robert J. O'Donnell, Director of Evaluation
initially recognized in 1973

Commission on Vocational, Technical, Career Institutions
Daniel S. Maloney, Director of Evaluation
initially recognized in 1973

Regional Institutional Accrediting Commissions

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia:
Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
Gordon W. Sweet, Executive Secretary
795 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
1952/1975/1979

Commission on Occupational Education Institutions, SACS
Bob E. Childers, Executive Secretary
(as above)
1969/1977/1981

Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington:
Commission on Colleges
Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
James F. Bemis, Executive Director
3700-B University Way, N.E.
Seattle, Washington 98105
1952/1977/1981

Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming:
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCACS)
Joseph J. Semrow, Executive Director
Post Office Box 2276
Boulder, Colorado
1952/1975/1977

Commission on Schools, NCACS
K. Forbis Jordan, Executive Secretary
(as above)
1974/1976/1980

California, Hawaii, the territory of Guam and such other areas of the Pacific Trust Territories as may apply to it:
Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
Western Association of Schools and Colleges
Harry D. Wiser, Executive Director
Post Office Box 4065
Modesto, California 95352
1952/1976/1980

Accrediting Commission for Schools, WASC
Lyle Siverson, Executive Director
1614 Rollins Road
Burlingame, California 94010
1974/1978

Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities, WASC
Kay J. Andersen, Executive Director
c/o Mills College, Box 9990
Oakland, California 94613
1952/1976/1980

Canal Zone, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands:
Commission on Higher Education
Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools
Robert Kirkwood, Executive Secretary
3624 Science Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104
1952/1976/1980

National Institutional and Specialized Accrediting Bodies

ARCHITECTURE
First professional degree programs
National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.
Hugo G. Blasdel, Executive Director
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
1952/1976/1980

ART
Professional schools and programs
National Association of Schools of Art
Roger Gilmore, Director
Commission on Accreditation and Membership, NASA
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Michigan Avenue at Adams Street
Chicago, Illinois 60603
1966/1976/1980

BIBLE COLLEGE EDUCATION
Three-year institutes and four- and five-year colleges
American Association of Bible Colleges
Jonn Mostert, Executive Director
Box 543
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
1952/1973/1977

BLIND AND VISUALLY HANDICAPPED EDUCATION
Specialized schools for the blind and visually handicapped
National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped
Richard W. Bleecker, Executive Director
79 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10016
1971/1976/1980

BLOOD BANK TECHNOLOGY
Programs for the specialist in blood bank technology
Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Committee on Education, American Association of Blood Banks
Richard L. Egan, Secretary
Council on Medical Education, AMA
535 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60610
1974/1978

BUSINESS
Baccalaureate and graduate degree programs in business and management
American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business
William K. Laidlaw, Jr., Managing Director
760 Office Parkway, Suite 50
St. Louis, Missouri 63141
1952/1975/1977

Private junior and senior colleges of business and private business schools
Association of Independent Colleges and Schools
Dana R. Hart, Executive Secretary
Accrediting Commission, AICS
1730 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
1956/1975/1979

CHIROPRACTIC
Programs leading to the D.C. degree
Council on Chiropractic Education
Orval L. Hidde, Chairman
Commission on Accreditation, CCE
1434 East Main Street
Watertown, Wisconsin 53094
1974/1975/1978

CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION
Professional training centers
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.
Charles E. Hall, Jr., Executive Director
Interchurch Center, Suite 450
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10027
1969/1976/1980

COSMETOLOGY
Cosmetology schools and programs
Cosmetology Accrediting Commission
James R. Dunne, Executive Director
1707 L Street, N.W., Suite 440
Washington, D.C. 20036
1970/1976/1977

CYTOTECHNOLOGY

Programs for the cytotechnologist

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee, American Society of Cytology

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1978

DENTAL AND DENTAL AUXILIARY PROGRAMS

Programs leading to the DDS or DMD degrees, advanced dental specialty programs, general practice residency programs and programs in dental hygiene, dental assisting, and dental technology

American Dental Association

Thomas J. Ginley, Secretary
Commission on Accreditation of Dental and Dental Auxiliary Programs, ADA
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611
1952/1972/1977

DIETETICS

Coordinated undergraduate programs in dietetics and dietetic internships

American Dietetic Association

Gloria Archer, Coordinator
Program Evaluation, ADA
430 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611
1974/1976/1977

ENGINEERING

First professional degree programs in engineering, graduate programs leading to advanced entry into the engineering profession, and associate and baccalaureate degree programs in engineering technology

Engineers' Council for Professional Development

David R. Reyes-Guerra, Executive Director
345 East 47th Street
New York, New York 10017
1952/1975/1977

FORESTRY

Professional schools

Society of American Foresters

Orlo Jackson
Director of Professional Programs, SAF
5400 Grosvenor Lane
Washington, D.C. 20014
1952/1974/1977

FUNERAL SERVICE EDUCATION

Independent schools and collegiate departments

American Board of Funeral Service Education

William H. Ford, Administrator
201 Columbia Street
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554
1972/1976/1980

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Graduate programs in health services administration

Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration

Gary L. Filerman, Executive Secretary
One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 420
Washington, D.C. 20036
1970/1975/1977

HISTOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

Programs for the histologic technician

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, which is sponsored by the American Society for Medical Technology and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1978

HOME STUDY EDUCATION

Home study schools

National Home Study Council

William A. Flower, Executive Secretary
Accrediting Commission, NHSC
1601 18th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
1959/1976/1979

INTERIOR DESIGN EDUCATION

Professional and technical programs

Foundation for Interior Design Education Research

John Mead, Administrator
730 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10019
1976/1978

JOURNALISM

First professional degree programs

American Council on Education for Journalism

Baskett Mosse, Executive Secretary
Accrediting Committee, ACEJ
563 Essex Court
Deerfield, Illinois 60015
1952/1976/1980

LABORATORY ASSISTANT EDUCATION

Programs for the laboratory assistant

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, which is sponsored by the American Society for Medical Technology and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1976/1978

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

First professional degree programs

American Society of Landscape Architects
Samuel Miller, Director
Education and Research, ASLA
1750 Old Meadow Road
McLean, Virginia 22101
1971/1975/1977

LAW

Professional schools

American Bar Association
Frederick R. Franklin, Staff Director
Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
1155 East 60th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
1952/1975/1977

LIBRARIANSHIP

Master's degree programs

American Library Association
Elinor Yungmeyer, Accreditation Officer
Committee on Accreditation, ALA
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
1952/1973/1977

MEDICAL ASSISTANT EDUCATION

Private medical assistant educational institutions and programs

Accrediting Bureau of Medical Laboratory Schools
Hugh A. Woosley, Administrator
Oak Manor Offices, 29089 US-20 West
Elkhart, Indiana 46514
1974/1976/1980

One- and two-year medical assistant programs

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Curriculum Review Board, American Association of Medical Assistants

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1976/1980

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN EDUCATION

Schools and programs for the medical laboratory technician

Accrediting Bureau of Medical Laboratory Schools
Hugh A. Woosley
(as above)
1969/1976/1980

Programs for the medical laboratory technician

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, which is sponsored by the American Society for Medical Technology and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1976/1978

MEDICAL RECORD EDUCATION

Programs for the medical record administrator and medical record technician

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Education and Registration Committee, American Medical Record Association

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1952/1975/1978

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Professional programs

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, which is sponsored by the American Society for Medical Technology and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1952/1974/1978

MEDICINE

Programs leading to the M.D. degree

Liaison Committee on Medical Education, representing the Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, and the Executive Council, Association of American Medical Colleges

(in odd-numbered years, after July 1)
Richard L. Egan, Secretary
Council on Medical Education, AMA
535 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60610

and

(in even-numbered years, after July 1)
John A. D. Cooper, President
Association of American Medical Colleges
One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036
1952/1972/1977

MUSIC

Baccalaureate and graduate degree programs and non-degree granting secondary and postsecondary institutions offering music education

National Association of Schools of Music
Samuel Hope, Executive Director
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, No. 5
Reston, Virginia 22090
1952/1974/1977

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGY

Programs for the nuclear medicine technologist

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology, which is sponsored by the American College of Radiology, American Society of Clinical Pathologists, American Society for Medical Technology, American Society of Radiologic Technologists, and the Society of Nuclear Medicine

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1976/1978

NURSING

Professional schools of nurse anesthesia

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Edward L. Kaleita, Executive Staff Secretary
Council on Accreditation, AANA
111 East Wacker Drive, Suite 929
Chicago, Illinois 60601
1955/1976/1979

Practical nurse programs

National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc.
Lucille L. Etheridge, Executive Director
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017
1967/1976/1980

Professional, technical and practical nurse programs

National League for Nursing, Inc.
Margaret E. Walsh, General Director and Secretary
10 Columbus Circle
New York, New York 10019
1952/1975/1979

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Professional programs

Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Accreditation Committee, American Occupational Therapy Association

Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1952/1975/1978

OCCUPATIONAL, TRADE AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Private trade and technical schools

National Association of Trade and Technical Schools
William A. Goddard, Secretary
Accrediting Commission, NATTS
2021 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
1967/1976/1978

OPTOMETRY

Professional programs

American Optometric Association
William M. Chapman, Executive Secretary
Council on Optometric Education, AOA
7000 Chippewa Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63119
1952/1977/1981

OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Programs leading to the D.O. degree

American Osteopathic Association
Philip Pumerantz, Director
Office of Osteopathic Education, AOA
212 East Ohio Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
1952/1976/1978

PHARMACY
Professional schools
American Council on Pharmaceutical Education
Daniel A. Nona, Executive Director
One East Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60601
1952/1973/1977

PHYSICAL THERAPY
Professional programs
Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Committee on Accreditation in Education, American Physical Therapy Association
Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1952/1976/1977

PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT EDUCATION
Programs for the assistant to the primary care physician and the surgeon's assistant
Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs for Physician's Assistants, which is sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Physician's Assistants, American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, and the American Society of Internal Medicine
Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1978

PODIATRY
Professional and graduate degree programs and podiatric assistant training programs
American Podiatry Association
John L. Bennett, Director
Council on Podiatry Education, APA
20 Chevy Chase Circle, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20015
1952/1975/1978

PSYCHOLOGY
Doctoral and internship programs in clinical and counseling psychology, and doctoral programs in school psychology
American Psychological Association
Carolyn Suber, Associate Educational Affairs Officer
1200 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
1970/1975/1979

PUBLIC HEALTH
Graduate schools of public health
Council on Education for Public Health
Janet A. Strauss, Executive Director
1015 18th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
1974/1975/1977

RABBINICAL AND TALMUDIC EDUCATION
Rabbinical and Talmudic schools
Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools
Abraham J. Tannenbaum, Executive Director
Accreditation Commission, AARTS
175 Fifth Avenue, Room 711
New York, New York 10010
1974/1977/1981

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY
Programs for the radiologic technologist and radiation therapy technologist
Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, which is sponsored by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and the American College of Radiology
Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1957/1975/1978

RESPIRATORY THERAPY
Programs for the respiratory therapist and respiratory therapy technician
Council on Medical Education, American Medical Association, in cooperation with the Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education, which is sponsored by the American Association for Respiratory Therapy Education, American College of Chest Physicians, American Society of Anesthesiologists and the American Thoracic Society
Richard L. Egan
(as above)
1974/1978

SOCIAL WORK
Master's and baccalaureate degree programs
Council on Social Work Education
Alfred Stamm, Director
Division of Standards and Accreditation, CSWE
345 East 46th Street
New York, New York 10017
1952/1976/1980

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Master's degree programs

American Speech and Hearing Association
Noel D. Matkin, Chairman
Education and Training Board, ASHA
9030 Old Georgetown Road
Washington, D.C. 20014
1967/1976/1979

TEACHER EDUCATION

Baccalaureate and graduate degree programs

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
Rolf W. Larson, Director
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
1952/1976/1979

THEOLOGY

Graduate professional schools

Assoociation of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada
Jesse H. Ziegler, Executive Director
Post Office Box 130
Vandalia, Ohio 45377
1952/1973/1977

VETERINARY MEDICINE

Programs leading to the DVM or VMD degrees and associate degree programs for animal technicians

American Veterinary Medical Association
W. M. Decker, Director
Scientific Activities, AVMA
930 North Meacham Road
Schaumburg, Illinois 60196
1952/1975/1979

Other:

Registration [accreditation] of collegiate degree-granting programs or curriculums offered by institutions of higher education

New York State Board of Regents
Ewald Nyquist, Commissioner of Education
State Education Department
The University of the State of New York
Albany, New York 12224
1952/1977/1981

ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR PREACCREDITION CATEGORIES

Regional Institutional Accrediting Associations

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Commission on Independent Schools:
Recognition of Candidacy for Accreditation, Correspondent

Commission on Insitutions of Higher Education:
Candidate for Accreditation

Commission on Public Schools:
Recognition of Candidacy for Accreditation

Commission on Vocational, Technical, Career Institutions:
Candidate for Accreditation, Candidacy for Accreditation

Regional Institutional Accrediting Commissions

Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, WASC:
Candidate for Accreditation

Accrediting Commission for Schools, WASC:
Candidate for Accreditation

Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities, WASC:
Candidate for Accreditation
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Commission on Colleges, NASC:
Candidate for Accreditation
NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Commission on Colleges, SACS:
Candidate for Accreditation

Commission on Occupational Education Institutions, SACS:
Candidate for Accreditation
SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Commission on Higher Education, MSACSS:
Candidate for Accreditation
MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, NCACS:
Candidate for Accreditation

Commission on Schools, NCACS:
Candidate for Accreditation
NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

National Institutional and Specialized Accrediting Bodies

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BIBLE COLLEGES:
Associate

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS
Council on Accreditation:
Preaccreditation

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
Commission on Accreditation of Dental and Dental Auxiliary Programs:
Accreditation Eligible, Reasonable Assurance, Preliminary Approval

AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION
Council on Optometric Education:
Reasonable Assurance, Preliminary Approval

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION:
Preaccreditation Status, Provisional Approval

AMERICAN PODIATRY ASSOCIATION
Council on Podiatry Education:
Reasonable Assurance, Preliminary Assurance

AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
Council on Education:
Reasonable Assurance of Accreditation

ASSOCIATION OF ADVANCED RABBINICAL AND TALMUDIC SCHOOLS
Accreditation Commission:
Correspondent, Candidate

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
Accrediting Commission:
Recognized Candidate Status

ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
Commission on Accrediting:
Authorization of Self-Study

COUNCIL ON CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION
Commission on Accreditation:
Correspondent, Recognized Candidate for Accreditation

COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH:
Provisional Accreditation

COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION
Commission on Accreditation:
Candidacy

ENGINEERS' COUNCIL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Engineering Technology Committee:
Candidate for Accreditation, Reasonable Assurance of Accreditation

LIAISON COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION:
Reasonable Assurance, Provisional Approval

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF ART
Commission on Accreditation and Membership:
Candidacy Status

NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING, INC.
Boards of Review for Diploma Programs, Associate Degree Programs, and Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs:
Reasonable Assurance of Accreditation

NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS:
Interim Registration, Preliminary Registration

GPO 924 9 18

INQUIRIES

Inquiries concerning the Commissioner's list of recognized accrediting agencies and associations and the criteria and procedures for listing should be directed to:

Director
Division of Eligibility and Agency Evaluation
Bureau of Postsecondary Education
U.S. Office of Education
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Washington, D.C. 20202

Telephone (202) 245-9873